the Agriculture Insurance Company of India Limited (AICL) which covers marginal farmers also. Under the scheme, the small and marginal farmers are provided 10% subsidy on premium. The said scheme provides indemnity against yield losses caused due to non-preventable risks such as natural fire and lightening storm, hailstorm, cyclone, typhoon, tempest, hurricane, tornado, frost, inundation, landslide, drought, dry spells, pests and diseases etc.

(c) AICL is implementing weather based insurance schemes, particularly, rainfall insurance schemes in various States. Some private insurance companies like ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company and IFFCO-TOKYO General Insurance Company are also implementing the scheme on limited scale.

Agreement of prevention of customs offences

2951. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have inked any agreement envisaging exchange of information and intelligence to prevent customs offences;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years, country-wise; and

(c) the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Government of the Republic of India has signed bilateral Customs Cooperation Agreement with Government of the Republic of Korea, The Australian Customs Service and Republic of China during the last two years. Apart from this, a multilateral agreement *i.e.* SAARC Agreement on Regional Cooperation in customs matters has also been signed.

(c) The agreements have been signed and the requirements for the entry into force have been completed and notified. The implementation of the agreements will be through appointed contact points.